

## CLAIMS

1. A golf club head comprising  
a face portion having a front face defining a club face for hitting a ball and a back surface,  
a sole portion extending backwards from a lower edge of the face portion, and  
a backside wall extending upwards from the sole portion and having a free upper end,  
said backside wall comprising a portion inclined frontward so that the distance from said back face gradually decreases from its lower edge to upper edge.
2. The golf club head according to claim 1, wherein  
said inclined portion has a front surface inclined at an angle of from 30 to 60 degrees with respect to the horizontal plane.
3. The golf club head according to claim 1, wherein  
a vertical extent of said inclined portion is in a range of from 3 to 30 mm.
4. The golf club head according to claim 1, wherein  
said inclined portion has a substantially constant thickness.
5. The golf club head according to claim 1, wherein  
said inclined portion has a thickness gradually decreasing from the lower edge to the upper edge.

6. The golf club head according to claim 1, wherein said inclined portion has a thickness gradually decreasing from the lower edge to the upper edge, and the minimum thickness (t3) is at least 0.5 times the maximum thickness (t2).
7. The golf club head according to claim 1, wherein the sole portion has a thickness gradually decreasing backwards.
8. The golf club head according to claim 1, wherein the sole portion has a thickness gradually decreasing backwards, and the thickness ratio (t1/t2) of a maximum thickness (t1) to a minimum thickness (t2) is at most 3.5.
9. The golf club head according to claim 1, wherein the sole portion has a thickness gradually increasing backwards.
10. The golf club head according to claim 1, wherein the sole portion has a thickness gradually increasing backwards, and the thickness ratio (t1/t2) of a minimum thickness (t1) to a maximum thickness (t2) is at least 0.2.
11. The golf club head according to claim 1, wherein the sole portion has a substantially constant thickness.
12. The golf club head according to claim 1, wherein the upper end of the backside wall is positioned at a height in a range of from 10 to 30 mm.

13. The golf club head according to claim 1, wherein  
when said distance is measured perpendicularly to the club  
face, the ratio ( $L2/L1$ ) of a minimum distance ( $L2$ ) to a maximum  
distance ( $L1$ ) is in a range of from 0.1 to 0.7.

14. The golf club head according to claim 1, wherein  
the sole portion has a thickness ( $t1$ ) at the front end and  
a thickness ( $t2$ ) at the rear end, and the ratio ( $t1/t2$ ) is in a  
range of from 0.2 to 3.5.